



California State Fire Marshal Informational Bulletin

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FIRE EXTINGUISHER MAINTENANCE

Last year, the State Fire Marshal (SFM) proposed numerous revisions to its regulations regarding portable fire extinguishers which, among other things, included the proposed change from annually to six years for internal maintenance.

Like many regulatory proposals, this change generated support from the fire service and opposition from industry. In light of this, our office thoroughly reviewed each written comment, as well as oral testimony received at the public hearings. As a result, we have concluded that because both proponents and opponents provided supporting information that is in direct conflict of each other, it is necessary for SFM to study the issue further prior to proceeding with any action.

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (APA), the regulatory change will eventually be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and approval. In its current form, we believe that the language as currently written will fail the legal requirements of the APA, which is necessary for approval by OAL. As such, SFM has decided to pull this section of the proposed regulatory change and submit the remaining proposal to OAL for review and approval.

Because the internal maintenance question remains, SFM will form an ad hoc committee comprised of both fire service and industry representatives to study this issue, and ultimately recommend a new proposed regulatory action that will satisfy both organizations, as well as those requirements of the APA.

If you would like to submit a comment to our office regarding this issue, please contact our Portable Fire Extinguisher Coordinator, Deputy Randy Shelton by telephoning him at (916) 445-8430, or by e-mail at **randy_shelton@fire.ca.gov**.